

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, please add the following new paragraph and headings prior to line 5:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is the U.S. National Stage of International Application Number PCT/IB2003/001213 filed April 3, 2003 and published in English October 14, 2004 under International Publication Number WO 2004/089016 A1 with International Search Report.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.--

At page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 11 as follows:

--Radio frequency identification (RFID) transponders also referred to as RFID tags are widely used for labeling objects, to establish ~~person's~~persons' identities and to recognize objects provided with RFID tags. Basically, RFID tags include an electronic circuit and a radio frequency (RF) interface coupled to an antenna contained in a small container. Passive RFID tags are activated by a RFID tag reader which generates an interrogation signal, for example an RF signal at a certain frequency. Active RFID tags comprise a power supply such as a battery for energizing the electronic components.--

At page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 34 and ending on page 2, line 3 as follows:

--Two-way active RFID tags include a miniaturized transceiver and conventionally a based on microprocessor technology. Two-way active RFID tags may be polled for data transmission or may transmit in a self-controlled way. The microprocessor technology allows ~~to perform~~ software algorithms to be performed for parsing received (interrogation) RF signals and for generating corresponding RF response signals.--

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 5 as follows:

--Back scatter RFID tags and two-way RFID tags allow ~~to provide~~ a larger amount of information to be provided and have a longer transmission range. Depending on the complexity of the RFID tags the information stored in a non-volatile way in the RFID tags may be read-only information or is modifiable (re-programmable) by the RFID tag reader.--

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 as follows:

--RFID tags are used in numerous application fields such as information storage devices allowing wireless read-out access. In detail, application fields may comprise electronic article surveillance (EAS), storage administration systems, anti-theft systems, access controls, identification systems (persons, pets, wild life, children etc.), toll collection, traffic management systems, rail car identification, high value asset controls and the like. The fields of applications are not limited to the given enumeration. The operation frequency of RFID tags lies within a frequency range of several kilohertz up to several gigahertz. The RFID tags may have various containers which are adopted to the purpose and application of the RFID tags. RFID tags used as a key replacement for accessing controlled area like an office block may be integrated in a key fob or may have a credit card shape for being accommodated in a pocket. Moreover RFID tags may be provided with adhesives or fixed onto adhesive labels, films etc. to be applied on articles, products etc.--

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 22 as follows:

--The market of microprocessor based portable terminals is still growing fast and the acceptance of mobile terminals is undiminished. Portable terminals devices offer the ability to a user to retrieve, process, modify and add informational data at any place at any time. The capabilities regarding storage capability and processing capability is limited in comparison to desktop systems. Portable terminals having data wireless communication functionality overcome the capability limitations for example by employing wireless connected data storage devices.--

At page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 29 and ending on page 3, line 7 as follows:

--Moreover, portable terminals which include a RFID tag reader are well known in the art. Such mobile terminals are able to receive the RFID tag information for further processing. For example, a portable terminal may be employed to receive

RFID tag information of RFID tags substituting the bar codes used to ~~label~~ uniquely label products. Furthermore, the ~~read-out~~read-out RFID tag information may be employed to request further information of a scanned product by establishing a communication link to an external information service, e.g. via the internet. Therefore, the RFID tag information comprises a product identification which identifies the product to the information service and eventually a tag identification sequence which defines access related information to allow the portable terminal to establish the communication link to the information service for transmitting the product identification and to receive an expected product information response. As an example, an RFID tags which is attached to a product and substitutes for the classical bar code (which is conventionally used today for product identification purposes in storage administration system and pay desk systems) may store a production identification in conjunction with a universal resource locator sequence which defines an address of a production information service. A portable terminal having RFID tag reader capability uses the stored information to retrieve the additional product information.--

At page 3, please add the following heading prior to line 20 as follows:

--BREIF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 3, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 as follows:

--The concept of the present invention provides a method which allows ~~to embed~~ a tag identification sequence addressing a plurality of services into a RFID tag information to be embedded, wherein the contained tag identification sequence addresses a plurality of individual services. The RFID tag information is attached to an interposed mediating service which manages the assignment of services to the RFID tag on the basis of the stored RFID tag information. Moreover the interposed mediating service supports user subscription management, i.e. a selection of individual user desired services out of a plurality of services is operated with respect to user subscription information pre-defined and provided by a user. The use of one RFID tag containing such a tag identification sequence allows ~~to reduce~~ the number of RFID tags to be reduced due to the fact that, when employing the ~~purposed~~ invention, numerous RFID tags can be replaced by a single RFID tags which allows ~~to obtain~~ the same information to be obtained.--

At page 4, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 as follows:

--The object of the present invention is achieved with a network serving device ~~as defined in claim 1~~, a portable, electronic terminal ~~as defined in claim 6~~, a system ~~defined in claim 9~~ and methods ~~as defined in claim 10, claim 15 and claim 18~~ described below.--

At page 10, please add the following heading prior to line 9 and amend the paragraph beginning on line 9 as follows:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The accompanying drawings are included to provide a further understanding of the invention and are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification. The drawings illustrate embodiments of the present invention and together with the description serve to explain the principles of the invention. In the drawings,

Fig. 1 shows a block diagram illustrating an arrangement comprising a RFID tag, a mobile communication terminal, an interposed mediating service provider having access to a database and a tag service provider which allow ~~to operate the~~ operation of an embodiment of a method according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2a shows a flow diagram illustrating a first operational sequence with respect to a method according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2b shows a flow diagram illustrating a second operational sequence with respect to a method according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

Fig. 2c shows a flow diagram illustrating an alternative operational sequence of Fig. 2b with respect to a method according to an embodiment of the present invention.--

At page 10, please add the following heading prior to line 25 as follows:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 10, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 36 and ending on page 11, line 14 as follows:

--The RFID tag 100 illustrated in Fig. 1 includes a storage component (Mem) 102 and a microprocessor or microcontroller (μ C) 101. An antenna 103 allows the RFID tag 100 to receive an interrogation signal and to transmit a response signal e.g. ~~an~~ in response to receiving of such an interrogation signal. The storage component 102 contains the RFID tag information which comprises in accordance with the present invention at least a tag identification sequence which is suitable to address a plurality of individual services. The interrogation signal and the response signal are communicated with the portable terminal 200 via ~~the~~ a wireless communication link 10 which is a radio frequency communication link. The storage component may be one of a read-only or a read/write (i.e. random access) non-volatile storage component. A storage component implemented as read-only storage component ensures that the RFID tag information stored therein is save against unauthorized modifications. In case a random access storage component is integrated in the RFID tag security issues relating to the information integrity have to be taken into account, e.g. an encryption mechanism may be employed to prevent any unauthorized access to the stored RFID tag information. The illustrated embodiment of the RFID tag 100 is just exemplary. Any implementation of a RFID tag which is able to serve RFID tag information is applicable to the invention.--

At page 11, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 16 as follows:

--The portable terminal 200 includes at least an RFID tag reader to retrieve the RFID tag information stored in the RFID tag 100, a processing unit (not shown) such as a microcontroller ~~401~~—or a microprocessor to process the RFID tag information received from the RFID tag 100 and a communication interface for exchanging information with the mediating service provider 300 and/or the tag service provider 500. The portable terminal 200 embodied in Fig. 1 includes a mobile communication interface capable ~~to establish~~ of establishing a wireless communication link 20 to a mobile communication service provider 255 operating the public land mobile network 250. Alternatively, the portable terminal 200 may include a wireless communication interface such as a wireless local area network (WLAN) interface or a Bluetooth interface which are capable ~~to~~ of establishing a wireless communication link to a dedicated networked access point device. Data communicated via the wireless communication link 20 to a mobile communication service provider 255 or to a networked access point device are routed by the mobile communication service provider 255 and the networked access point device to an addressed recipient,

respectively, such as the mediating service provider 300 or the tag service provider 500 illustrated in Fig. 1.--

At page 11, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 32 and ending on page 12, line 10 as follows:

--A huge number of communication techniques can be employed for communicating data among the portable terminal 200 and the mediating service provider 300 and/or the tag service provider 500. Depending on the employed wireless communication environment different communication techniques which are based on different communication protocols may be used. A communication protocol standard which is applicable with nearly all data communication applications is the hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) which among others allows ~~to request~~ for information to be requested which is identified by the means of an addressing coding sequence having a standardized address coding according to the uniform resource locator (URL) or uniform resource identifier (URI). The wireless application protocol (WAP) which is especially used in a cellular communication environment is based ~~at to~~ on a great ~~extend~~ extent on the hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) and has been adapted to special requirements faced by the cellular communication environment. In view of the fact that cellular communications may be used, it should be realized that data exchange may also be ~~also~~ based on a messaging service provided by ~~the~~ an employed cellular communication system. For example GSM systems and related cellular communication systems provide a messaging service in accordance with the short message service (SMS) standard, the multimedia message service (MMS) standard and proprietary standards like ~~the Nokia's~~ a smart messaging service provided by the assignee hereof.--

At page 12, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 12 as follows:

--The above presented short description referring to communication techniques is given as an example to enlighten as to the possibilities but it shall be noted that the invention is not limited to the aforementioned communication techniques. Further communication techniques may also be employed without departing from the scope of the present invention.--

At page 12, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 32 and ending on page 13, line 2 as follows:

--The mediating service provider 300 operates a network serving device which is capable ~~to receive~~of receiving messages from the portable terminal 200, especially service request messages containing information provided by the RFID tag obtained by the RFID tag reader of the portable terminal 200 and information available in the portable terminal 200. The mediating service provider 300 further includes components for processing the received messages and generating corresponding messages in accordance with information available by the mediating service provider 300 and the received messages.--

At page 13, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 9 as follows:

--The tag service provider 500 operates analogously to the mediating service provider 300 a network serving device which ~~is capable~~has the capability to receive a tag service request, process correspondingly to the requested tag service to retrieve requested information and to generate a corresponding response for being transmitted to a recipient, i.e. the portable terminal 100 or the mediating service provider 300.--

At page 13, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 20 as follows:

--The network serving device may be an information server, a WAP server, a WEB server, a database server or any related or similar serving device which is based on a processing unit coupled to an information storage for serving parts of the information. The following description addresses an information service operated by an information server. It shall be understood that the designation service shall be understood as broadly as possible. A service provided by a service provider shall cover all cases in which data exchange is initiated by a portable terminal causing data exchange between the portable terminal and any serving device operated by the service provider independently of whether the exchanged data relates to application related information, meta-language / markup-language information, database related information etc.--

At page 14, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 as follows:

--In an operation S130 the RFID Tag 100 is activated. The activated RFID tag re-transmits a response signal ~~on~~in response to the interrogation signal (S140). The activation of the RFID tag may further comprise a processing operation performed by a processing component of the RFID tag to generate the re-transmitted response signal. On the basis of the example RFID tag 100 illustrated in Fig. 1, the electrical circuit, an integrated circuit (IC), microcontroller or microprocessor 101 may be activated by the interrogation signal of the RFID reader. After activation, the microcontroller 101 retrieves the RFID tag information from the storage component 102 and generates the RF response signal which comprises the RFID tag information. Depending on the type of RFID tag the interrogation signal may comprise information or an instruction in accordance ~~to~~with which the microcontroller 101 performs the retrieving of RFID tag information and the generating of the RF response signal. Moreover, the technique of embedding the RFID tag information into the RF response signal may vary among a broad number of different coding and modulation techniques. The detailed operation of RFID tags is out of the scope of the present invention.--

At page 14, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 32 as follows:

--In ~~an~~the operation S140, the RF response signal which comprises the RFID tag information is finally radiated via the antenna 103 to be sensed by the RFID reader.--

At page 15, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 as follows:

--In an operation S160, a parsing component of the portable terminal 200 parses the RFID tag information which is supplied from the RFID tag reader to the parsing component. In accordance ~~to~~with the present invention, the RFID tag information comprises at least one tag identification sequence which identifies the RFID tag itself and services which shall be available in conjunction with the RFID tag being read out. The tag identification sequence allows ~~to take advantages~~to be taken of the individual services. Prerequisites may have to be given to get granted access to one or more of the individual services. The prerequisites will be described below in detail.--

At page 15, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 12 as follows:

--The possibility of identifying the RFID tag itself shall allow ~~to conclude in which a~~
conclusion to be made concerning the environment in which the RFID tag is ~~in is~~
provided to the user of the portable terminal 200, i.e. at which geographical position
the RFID tag can be found. The determination of the geographical position may be
based on information stored in a database such as the database 400. The possibility
~~to of~~ identifying services which are addressed by the RFID tag shall allow ~~to~~
~~conclude a~~ conclusion to be made about which individual services have been
assigned to the single RFID tag. As an example, it shall be assumed that a RFID tag
is provided in a main station near a timetable. The geographical position of the RFID
tag is correspondingly in the main station in a certain city and more precisely, the
timetable e.g. in the central entrance. Individual services assigned to this RFID tag
may be an information service about delays of current train connections, information
about restaurants near to the main station, information about hotels, information
about shops in the gallery of the main station and the like. Instead of providing
access information to these enumerated services in combination with one RFID tag
for each service, the individual services are summarized in one RFID tag.--

At page 15, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 26 and ending on page 16,
line 5 as follows:

--The RFID tag information received from the RFID tag reader may additionally
comprise accompanying information amending the tag identification sequence which
addresses one or more individual services. The accompanying information defines a
coding and an addressing of a request message for accessing the one or more
services addressed by the tag identification sequence. In detail, the accompanying
information comprises communication related data to be employed for transmitting
the request message. In more detail, the communication related data may specify that
the request message shall be coded and transmitted for example via the short
message service (SMS) or the multimedia message service (MMS) through the over-
the-air (OTA) interface of a PLMN, wherein the communication related data also
specifies a corresponding required telephone number which identifies the recipient
of the request message. Alternatively, the communication related data may specify
that the request message shall be coded and transmitted using HTTP, WAP or any
other suitable data communication protocol, wherein the communication related data
may also specify an internet protocol (IP) address, a universal resource locator
(URL) or a universal resource identifier (URI) which identifies the recipient of the
request message. The communication related data may also contribute information

like network access point settings, proxy settings etc. which are required for transmitting the request message.--

At page 16, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 7 as follows:

--In an operation S170, a request generation component of the portable terminal 200 is responsible for generating a service request message on the basis of information which results from the parsing of the RFID tag information. The service request message comprises additionally a subscriber identification included by the request generation component and retrieved from a storage component in the portable terminal 200. The subscriber identification may be an identifier of the portable terminal 200 or the user of the portable terminal 200, but is not limited thereto. The subscriber identification shall be understood as an identification sequence which ~~allows to conclude~~a conclusion to be made concerning the originator of the service request message, wherein the originator may be the portable terminal 200 or the user of the portable terminal 200.--

At page 17, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 as follows:

--In view of a portable terminal 200 including a wireless network communication interface such as a WLAN interface or a Bluetooth interface a hardware network interface identification sequence (number) which is assigned to the respective network communication interface and which identifies uniquely worldwide the network communication interface may also be appropriate to be employed as subscriber identification since the hardware network interface identification sequence ~~allows similarly to conclude~~similarly allows a conclusion to be made about the originator of the service request message.--

At page 17, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 11 as follows:

--However, the subscriber identification may be also an identification sequence which has ~~being~~previously been assigned ~~at some time before~~ to the portable terminal 200 or the user of the portable terminal 200 by a subscription service, respectively and has ~~being~~been stored in the portable terminal 200 (and in a storage component thereof, respectively) to be employed for the service request message.--

At page 17, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 16 as follows:

--Depending on the communication technique employed for coding and transmitting the service request message, the subscriber identification may be included in the payload of the service request message or via context information available in connection with the service request message. For example, the service request message may be coded and transmitted via the short message service (SMS). The subscriber identification shall be based on the telephone number of the mobile communication terminal which transmits the service request message. That is, the telephone number ~~has~~does not ~~have~~ to be included in the payload of the service request message since the short message service conveys independently the telephone number as communication context information additionally with the actual payload. In contrast thereto, a service request message coded on the basis of the hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) may identify the originator by the means of an internet protocol (IP) address which can be assigned dynamically such that the IP address is not adequate for identifying unambiguously the originator. An explicit subscriber identification included in the payload of the service request message is sensible.--

At page 17, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 30 and ending on page 18, line 6 as follows:

--Conclusively, the description above referring to the subscriber identification illustrates a broad number of individual applicable identification sequences which all allow ~~to conclude~~a conclusion to be made about the originator of the service request message and an identity of the originator (portable terminal 200 and user thereof, respectively). The subscriber identification may be included in the payload of the service request message by the generating portable terminal 200 or by a network node being interposed in the transmission path of the service request message. The subscriber identification may be available in communication context information present in parallel to the service request message. The subscriber identification may be based on an actual subscriber information which may be stored in the portable terminal 200 or may be based on any hardware identification provided by the portable terminal 200 and components thereof, respectively. It has to be noted that in view of the illustration above the designation subscriber identification is to be understood as broadly as possible and should not be limited to any subscriber identification information required for operating a ~~probable~~portable, electronic terminal in a PLMN. The subscriber identification shall be applicable to ~~conclude~~make a conclusion about the originator of the service request message.--

At page 18, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 8 as follows:

--In an operation S180, a communication interface of the portable terminal 200 allows to ~~transmit~~transmittal of the generated service request message containing at least the tag identification sequence extracted from the RFID tag information and a subscriber identification relevant to the requested service. The service request message is directed to the mediating service provider 300. The communication related data concerning the transmission of the service request message to the mediating service provider 300 may be additionally extracted from the RFID tag information or alternatively may be stored in the portable terminal 200.--

At page 18, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 19 as follows:

--In an operation S200, a parsing component comprised by the network serving device parses the service request message and extracts the contained information, i.e. at least the tag identification sequence and the subscriber identification. As aforementioned, the subscriber identification may be extracted from the payload of the received service request message or may be obtained from the message context information.--

At page 18, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 25 as follows:

--In an operation S210, an identification component of the network serving device ~~is responsible~~has responsibility to determine the individual services which are addressed by the tag identification sequence, to determine the services to which the user is subscribed on the basis of the subscriber identification and which are offered to the user independent from a subscription and to check which of the addressed individual services are covered by the user subscription and which of the addressed individual services are available without user subscription.--

At page 18, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 32 and ending on page 19, line 5 as follows:

--It should be noted that in conjunction with the present invention the subscription shall be understood as an agreement of the user (subscriber) to use certain services / applications which may imply an agreement to pay for the use of the subscribed services / applications. The use may be charged by a flat-rate or by an individual fee ~~incurring~~incurred with individual use e.g. charged by the PLMN provider. The subscription may comprise one or more definitions about one or more classifications designating related services / applications, e.g. a classification may define a theme or

subject which comprises several services / applications being of interest for the user (subscriber). The subscription may comprise a period of time within which the services / applications can be used by the user (subscriber), which corresponds to a time flat-rate or the subscription may comprise a number of allowed accesses to the services / application which corresponds to a volume flat-rate.--

At page 19, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 7 as follows:

--The services / applications which are managed by the mediating service provider 300 may vary in time, i.e. certain services / applications may be available at a certain time and during a certain period of time, respectively. Furthermore, the services / applications may change in time, i.e. the services / application themselves may change in time or the service functionality of the services / application may change in time.--

At page 19, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 13 as follows:

--More generally, the designation subscription shall be also understood as a (sub-)division of the requestors (i.e. the originators of service request messages identified by the subscriber identifications which identify the requesting portable, electronic terminal and the user thereof in any way in the sense of the aforementioned description of the subscriber identifications, respectively) into a first group and a second group. The first group may be designated as being subscribed whereas the second group may be designated as being not subscribed. A selection of services may be assigned with and available to the first group comprising subscribed group members (requestors). The second group comprising all requestors not being part of the first group may have assigned no services, a different selection of services, a selection of services which are limited in their functionality in comparison to corresponding complete services and the like. For example to illustrate the general designation subscription, a certain service may be available to a number of users which are known before such as customers (subscribers) of a certain PLMN provider operating the PLMN. A limited service may be offered to the other requestors of ~~the~~ this certain service which are not customers. The limited service may be understood and handled as a separate service. For example, the limited service ~~is~~may be for advertising the service and may be available only during a certain period of time. In view of the example above the services may be subdivided into subscribed services (which requires a subscription) and free services (which do not require a subscription).--

At page 19, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 32 and ending on page 20, line 2 as follows:

--For checking the subscription, the services which are addressed by the extracted tag identification sequence are identified. This is, the subscribed services which are subscribed by the user (subscriber) are identified on the basis of the extracted subscriber identification. ~~Moreover, this is,~~ may include ~~the~~ services which are available to the user without being particularly subscribed for example because the user is customer of a certain PLMN provider, because the service is freely accessible to all requestors and the like. The identification of the addressed services and the identification of the subscribed and offered services may include an access to a service and subscription database 400 storing the required information.--

At page 20, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 as follows:

--In an operation S300, the service and subscription database 400 is accessed to retrieve subscription information concerning the subscriber identified by the subscriber identification. The subscription information may comprise information about one or more services to which the user (subscriber) is subscribed or which are available to the user, a service classification or related subscription definitions pre-defined and provided by the user (subscriber). The retrieving is based on the subscriber identification which has been included into the service request message generated by the portable terminal 200 and which allows ~~to identify~~ identification of the portable terminal 200 and the user of the portable terminal 200, respectively. The database 400 may provide information about single services ~~being subscribed to~~ by the user or may provide classification information which allows ~~to identify~~ identification of one or more class of services which are summarized by a subject ~~or~~ for theme definition.--

At page 20, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 16 as follows:

--In an operation S310, the service and subscription database 400 is accessed to retrieve the services which are addressed by the tag identification sequence. The retrieving may result in one or more services associated with the tag identification sequence which is obtained from the certain RFID tag 100 read-out by the RFID tag reader of the portable terminal 200. The identification of the one or more services associated to the RFID tag 100 which has been read-out is designated as mediating resolving of services, i.e. mediating in the sense of resolving. The database 400 comprises the association information linking a tag identification sequence to one or more services. The retrieving of the services on the basis of the tag identification

sequence contained in the service request from the database 400 offers a simple method to define and/or modify individual services assigned to the tag identification sequence and add or remove individual services from the association, respectively. Referring back to operation S140, RFID tag provides a tag identification sequence to the portable terminal 200. The mediation and resolution of which concrete individual services are assigned to the RFID tag is performed by the database 400, respectively. As an example, the use of the RFID tag in the main station is widely accepted by the passengers. A new cafe will also provide its own service to the passengers which use the services being assigned to the RFID tag. The new service of the cafe is simply assigned to this RFID tag by modifying the information stored in the database 400. No modifications have to be executed to the RFID tag itself.--

At page 20, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 35 and ending on page 21, line 5 as follows:

--The checking of the subscription finally includes a checking component in the networked service serving device of the mediating service provider 300 to compares the services identified to be assigned to the RFID tag which is identified on the basis of the tag identification sequence against the subscription information which is retrieved in accordance with the subscription information. The checking may be a one-to-one comparison between the assigned services and subscribed and offered services or the checking may be based on classification information provided by the user to subscribe to a class of services. The checking operation results in one or more matching services which will be further handled.--

At page 21, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 7 as follows:

--The database 400 is described as a service and subscription database offering information about services assigned to the RFID tag which has been read-out and information about the subscription definitions of the user (subscriber). The combining of both sets of information into one database 400 as explained is not necessary, as dedicated databases for each set of information may replace the aforementioned database 400.--

At page 21, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 22 as follows:

--Fig. 2b shows a flow diagram illustrating a first operational sequence being operated in consequence ~~of~~ of the operational sequence shown in Fig. 2a according to an embodiment of the present invention. The illustrated operational sequence

depicts a direct initiating of one matching service which is provided by the tag service provider 500.--

At page 23, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 as follows:

--Fig. 2c shows a flow diagram illustrating a second operational sequence being operated ~~in~~as a consequence ~~of~~of the operational sequence shown in Fig. 2a as an alternative to the operation sequence presented in Fig. 2b according to an embodiment of the present invention.--

At page 24, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 11 as follows:

--It will be ~~obvious~~forevident to those skilled in the art that as the technology advances, the inventive concept can be implemented in a broad number of ways. The invention and its embodiments are thus not limited to the examples described above but may vary within the scope of the claims.--